

# 5 Steps to Five



**EXPLORE**

**READ**

**PLAY**

**TALK**

**NURTURE**



# DEAR FRIENDS OF 5 STEPS TO FIVE,

**Welcome to our 2022 Annual Report!**

**We are excited to share the many good things that happened last year. In lots of ways, 2022 saw a joyful return to normalcy: no more mandatory masks, new families attending our programs, more classes and special events, a growing teaching staff, and a hugely successful fall luncheon.**

**But the year also brought sadness as we had to say good-bye to our founder Mary Alice Warner, who passed away in October. It was Mary Alice who had the vision for this program, recognizing the importance of supporting parents in their role as a baby's first and most important teacher. We are honored to carry on her legacy by being a trusted resource for parents seeking to give their child the best possible start to school and to life.**



# PROGRAMMING

In 2022, 5 Steps to Five families attended in-person classes both indoors at All Souls Community Center and outdoors at Lyon Park and the All Souls playground. Classes were divided into sections, with the younger group arriving early, and families of preschoolers joining for mid-morning sessions. Our maternity class and parents with newborns gathered in the Foundation Room. High school volunteers engaged the older siblings, offering them a fun and age-appropriate experience so that parents could focus on the youngest child.



**Schuyler Warner** distributed books and many household items from his parents Mary Alice and Kent to our families and staff.



**Hispanic Heritage Month** in the fall brought a lot of fun along with fabulous food, dancing and regional dress.



BOD member and Port Chester Police Officer, **Moises Ochoa**, came in uniform to introduce himself and share useful information about the work of the PCPD.

Bogotá-based literacy specialist, **Edward Bedoya**, presented reading workshops via Zoom.



In November, we celebrated **National Literacy Month**.

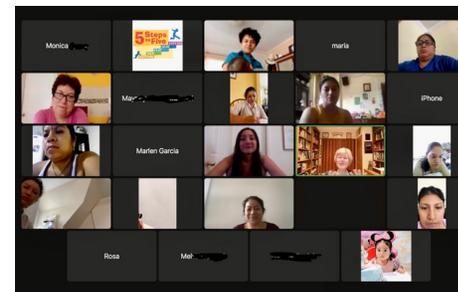
Thank you to **the Kantor family** for their donation of so many fantastic toys, which allowed us to hold a successful Toy Giveaway Day in June.



**Pam Nathan and Ilaria St. Florian-Kruitzer** hosted a special event for Halloween where families made mummy jars and turned healthy snacks into pumpkins and ghosts.



**Rye Nature Center's** NatureStation returned with its well-loved (by most) corn snake, "Popcorn".



In December, **Dr. Mary Versfelt** conducted a Zoom Q&A session focused on staying healthy throughout the cold, flu, and RSV season.



**Celebrando La Herencia Hispana**  
¡Ponte un traje típico de tu país!  
24 DE SEPTIEMBRE | 10 A.M.

**EXPLORANDO La Naturaleza**  
Una visita de Rye Nature Center Nature Station  
17 DE SEPTIEMBRE | 10:15 A.M.

**RUTINAS**  
10 DE SEPTIEMBRE  
10:00 A.M.  
LYON PARK

**TALLER DE LECTURA INFANTIL**  
MIÉRCOLES, 25 DE MAYO  
5 P.M. VÍA ZOOM  
CON EDWARD BEDOYA

**¿PREGUNTA A LA PEDIATRA!**  
Con Dr. Mary Versfelt, MD  
Llama Marcela 914-426-5299 para el enlace de Zoom  
12 DE DICIEMBRE | 7 P.M.

**GRATITUD**  
19 DE NOVIEMBRE | 10:15 A.M.

**¿Por qué, papá?**  
CONSEJOS PARA ALIMENTAR LA CURIOSIDAD DE SU HIJO  
30 DE AVRIL | 10:15 A.M.

**el poder de la música**  
PARA DESARROLLAR EL CEREBRO  
12 DE MARZO | 10:15 A.M.

**HABLAR CON LOS NIÑOS**  
17 DE DICIEMBRE  
10:15 A.M.

**ZUMBA con Annmarie**  
25 DE JUNIO | 10 A.M.  
LYON PARK  
PARA PADRES E HIJOS

**FIESTA DE PINTURA**  
6 DE AGOSTO | 10:15 A.M.

**¡AY, ESAS RABIETAS!**  
Cómo ayudar nuestros

**¡ÚNETE EN CASO DE QUE TE LO HAYAS PERDIDO!**

**comer un arco iris de frutas coloridas es bueno**

**Celebración de Navidad**  
10 DE DICIEMBRE | 10:15 A.M.  
¡Recibe un regalo de

**These posters represent a sampling of the topics that were covered in 2022. Each session had a theme linked to one of the Five steps: Nurture, Talk, Play, Read and Explore. We regularly brought in experts and volunteers to speak with our parents.**



# SPECIAL EVENTS

We continued to expand our offerings beyond our Saturday programming by introducing more weekday and evening classes, along with Zoom workshops. These sessions covered a diverse range of topics, such as nutrition and healthy snacking habits, helping older siblings adjust to a newborn in the household, the various factors that influence healthy brain development, or the advantages of reducing screen time.



**Ann Magalhaes** hosted an evening workshop welcoming new families to 5 Steps.



**Ilaria St. Florian-Kruitzer** led a Zoom workshop on Nutrition.



**Carolina Ramon-Caro** hosted a session focussed on the power of play in the early years.



Daytime classes provided opportunities for pregnant women to meet other expectant mothers and build new community.

## EL CEREBRO:

Factores que afectan el crecimiento y desarrollo del cerebro

15 DE NOVIEMBRE | 10 A.M.  
PARA PADRES Y SUS HIJOS DE 0 A 9 MESES  
HABRÁ DESAYUNO



POR FAVOR RESERVAR  
POR TEXTO AL NÚMERO 917-946-4904  
LOS NIÑOS SON BIENVENIDOS

## GRUPO DE MADRES EMBARAZADAS

Únete a nuestro nuevo grupo y comparte con otras madres, conoce más sobre nosotros "5 Steps to Five" y sobre todas las actividades y recursos que se ofrecen en nuestra comunidad.

All Souls Centro Comunitario  
55 Parkway Drive, Port Chester  
(Entrada principal calle Linden)

14 DE JULIO  
10 A.M.

¡Habrá desayuno!  
¡Los hermanos son bienvenidos!

Preguntas,  
llama Marcela  
914-426-5299



# FOUNDERS' DAY AND 5 STEPS TO FIVE DAY



May was a month of special celebrations. First, we hosted 'Founders' Day' honoring **Kent and Mary Alice Warner** and **Allen Clark**. We presented the Founders' Award to those families who had attended more than 100 sessions.



**5/25**  
IS  
**5 STEPS**  
**TO FIVE**  
**DAY**

YES, COUNT ME IN!

Secondly, our organization declared May 25 **5 Steps to Five (5-2-5) Day!** To celebrate the momentous occasion, an anonymous supporter generously offered to match donations up to \$25,525. Thanks to many donors old and new, it was a huge success.



# STAFF



**Marcela Kissner**, our Community Worker, was recognized by the Carver Center in October at their Hispanic Heritage Celebration Luncheon. She and Port Chester Mayor Luis Marino were presented with awards for their efforts on behalf of the community.



**Alexandra Tapicha** was hired as our new Program Administrator, helping us to expand our programming by teaching new weekday classes. Alexandra is originally from Colombia and has extensive educational experience.



**Our staff continues to be our greatest asset. In 2022 we were fortunate to retain every one of our employees, and we also welcomed a new member to our team!**

“ I ENJOY EXPLAINING TO THE MOTHERS HOW IMPORTANT THE PROGRAM IS BECAUSE IT TEACHES HOW CHILDREN DEVELOP A STRONG AND HEALTHY BRAIN SINCE BIRTH. I ALSO EXPLAIN HOW OUR PROGRAM HELPS THE CHILDREN GAIN SKILLS AND SOCIALIZATION TO BE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN. I LOVE AND FEEL VERY HAPPY WHEN I GO TO THE HOMES OF THE FAMILIES TO GIVE THEM DIAPERS AND CLOTHES.

- MARCELA KISSNER



“ I LOVE WORKING HERE BECAUSE IT IS IMPORTANT TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE 5 STEPS IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRAIN AND GROWTH. I LOVE WORKING WITH A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT POPULATION. MY FAVORITE MEMORY IS CELEBRATING MULTICULTURAL DAY WHERE EVERYONE SHARED AND BROUGHT FOOD FROM THEIR CULTURE.

- CAROLINA RAMON-CARO



# INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS



Members of the Board of Directors continued to support us with everything from conducting workshops to organizing book giveaways. **Emily Borell's** children were terrific assistants!

**Jane Mickatavage** and her amazing team of extraordinary knitters and crocheters donated gorgeously handmade mittens, blankets, and hats for our families.



For the fifth year in a row, **Milton School families** provided holiday gifts for our students. 5th graders and parent volunteers wrapped all the gifts.



We were grateful to participate in the Rye High School Senior Internship Program again this year. **Dylan Snyder** helped us with a variety of special projects.

Holy Child senior **Yudelkis Cueva** and Regis sophomore **Eoin Hartigan** worked remotely on translations, and also helped us update our database.

**Thank you to all our interns and volunteers. We are tremendously grateful for your help and generosity!**



**Holy Child volunteers** came in on several occasions and helped to organize the storage areas.

**Lily O'Connor** (left) joined **Lily Mann** (right) as RHS student interns through the school year. "The Lilies" were extraordinarily helpful.



**Bill Belleville** returned as our Dancing Santa for this year's holiday toy give away!



# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



**Open Door Medical Center** provided our families with a lot of critical information, from how to get boosters to how COVID affects young children. In addition, they donated backpacks for our students entering preschool.



## Rye Presbyterian Church



We are grateful to **Rye Presbyterian Church** for providing our organization with a beautiful and well-equipped home at All Souls Community Center. Our families also enjoyed **Port Chester Recreation Department's** Lyon Park, ideally situated across the street from the center.

## The Sharing Shelf

When Marcela, our family worker, identified families in need of clothing, **The Sharing Shelf** unfailingly met these needs and assembled the items for us to distribute.



**WIC** provided us with informative materials and flyers for new moms, and helped promote our programs by distributing information in their baby bags.

With the help of a grant from the Christ Church Youth Grantmaking Board, **Volunteer NY** supplied books and "emotion" themed packets.



**Rye Nature Center's** Nature Station thrilled students and parents alike with their experiential mobile truck.

## 914Cares



We continued to receive diapers and personal hygiene products from **914Cares**.



**Blue Heart Forever**, a weekly bilingual support group for special education parents in Port Chester, was founded by a 5 Steps parent and meets regularly at All Souls.

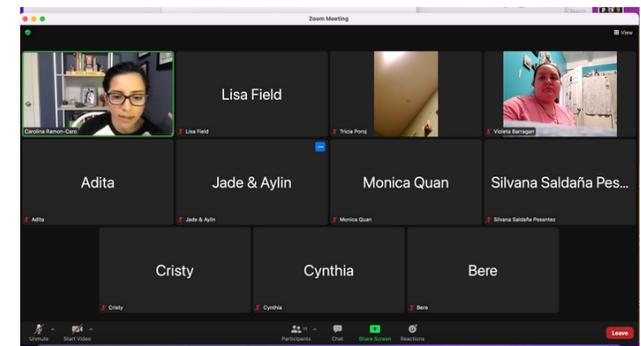


# ATTENDANCE

**2022 saw a return to stronger and more consistent attendance. The number of so-called 'touches', i.e. times we reached a family with one of our parenting programs, was 1439. The total number of sessions conducted in 2022 was 57, a 24% increase from 2021. In addition to our regular Saturday morning sessions, we introduced in-person weekday classes and offered more themed weeknight Zoom sessions. We also benefitted from an increased number of special partnership events with other local nonprofit organizations. For example, the Rye Nature Center visit in September pulled in 20 new families who had not attended a 5 Steps to Five program before. We were also pleased to see a marked increase in the numbers of dads joining our classes.**



We are fortunate to be located across from Lyon Park's pavilion, which enables us to host larger outdoor events during the summer.



One of our mothers moved back to her home country of El Salvador and continues to attend most of our virtual programs remotely.



On Founders Day, we celebrated the many families who have attended our program 100 (or more) times.



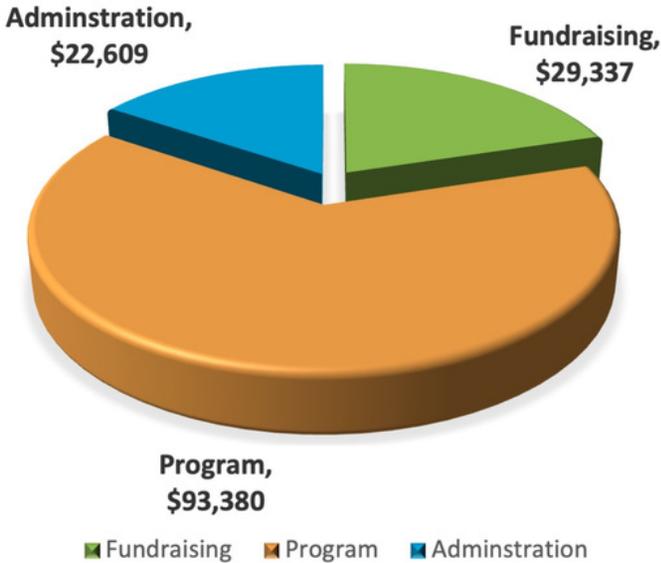
# FINANCIAL RESULTS

**5 Steps to Five continued to experience robust financial health in 2022. The 5/25 Day Campaign as well as our in-person fall luncheon helped put us on strong financial footing, and the response to our year-end Annual Appeal was also positive. Our current financial position allows us flexibility as we look to the future.**

### Expenditures

Overall expenditures increased slightly over 2021 due to increased weekday and evening programming requiring additional staff hours, as well as some line item increases due to higher costs of program materials.

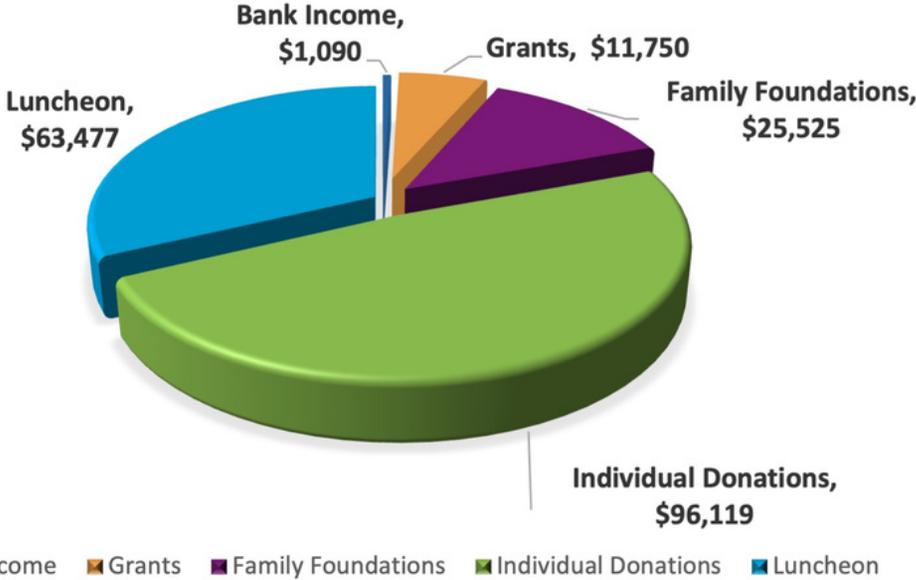
### 2022 EXPENDITURES: TOTAL \$145,326



### Revenue

2022 revenue totaled \$197,126. We added more than 100 first-time donors, many of whom came to us through our fall luncheon.

### 2022 REVENUE: TOTAL \$197,126



# FALL LUNCHEON



**5 STEPS TO FIVE LUNCHEON**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

**We were thrilled to be able to host our fall luncheon on a gorgeous September day at beautiful American Yacht Club. We loved seeing so many new (and also, so many familiar) faces, and to be able to share our passion for our work. Thank you to everyone who attended!**



**Ilaria St. Florian-Kruijtzter** and **Pam Nathan** were our fantastic event chair duo who gave us beautiful decorations, a lovely video, and a wildly successful Bingo game.



Our very own **Doctor Mary** charmingly and eloquently explained the urgency behind our mission.

“**THESE KIDS HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE.**

**-DR MARY VERSFELT**

A special THANK YOU to **Jo Bryan, Emily Fung, Sonali Laschever, Ann Magalhaes, Annabel Monaghan, and Sally Tobin** for their generous contributions to our silent auction!



# BOARD NEWS

In 2022, 5 Steps to Five's Board of Directors continued its work to ensure the financial stability of the organization, to support the staff and the families in our care, and to advance our mission.

We initiated a new fundraiser in the spring: May 25 is now 5 Steps to Five day, and a generous matching challenge put us in a good financial position early. That allowed us to envision our fall luncheon as a strategic 'friendraiser', with a focus on reaching new supporters and sharing the importance of our mission. We are grateful to board member **Iliaria St. Florian-Kruijtzer** and her talented friend **Pam Nathan** for chairing the hugely successful event, and to brand-new Director and retired pediatrician, **Dr. Mary Versfelt**, for being a terrific and thoroughly convincing keynote speaker.

In addition to Doctor Mary, the board also welcomed two more Directors: **Moises Ochoa**, a law enforcement officer in Port Chester, and **Dr. Kiren Patel**, an orthodontist with extensive experience working with the Spanish-speaking population in the Bronx. Both have already presented to our classes, allowing us to offer even more important and useful information to the families.

We reluctantly accepted founder **Allen Clark's** resignation from the board. His passion for the cause and intense focus on our mission will be missed. **Mary Alice Warner's** death in October was a great loss for the board and the organization.

The board would like to recognize Executive Director **Lisa Field**, Associate Director **Melissa Belleville**, and the entire staff for their tremendous work on behalf of the families we serve. Thank you also to our landlord, **Rye Presbyterian Church** for their support of our programs. The board is committed to growing and expanding the organization to reach even more families in 2023.

**A PARENT IS A CHILD'S FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT TEACHER. OUR MISSION IS TO BE A TRUSTED RESOURCE FOR PARENTS SEEKING TO GIVE THEIR CHILD THE BEST POSSIBLE START TO SCHOOL AND TO LIFE.**

## 2022 Board of Directors

**Kristin Jautz, President**  
**Ann Magalhaes, CPE, Vice President**  
**Betsy Buttrill White, Treasurer**  
**Nicole Colwell, Secretary**  
**Allen Clark, Founder**

**Emily Borell**  
**Carolee Brakewood**  
**Rachel Fleming, OTR/L**  
**Lori Haffey**  
**Carolyn Mauritz**  
**Moises Ochoa**  
**Kiren Patel, DDS**  
**Iliaria St. Florian-Kruijtzer, CDN**  
**Mary Versfelt, MD**

**Kent Warner,**  
**Director Emeritus**  
**Mary Alice Warner,**  
**Director Emeritus**

**Lisa Field,**  
**Executive Director**  
**Melissa Belleville,**  
**Associate Director**

**Community Advisors:**  
**Elsy González**  
**Robin Jovanovich**  
**Molly Ness, PhD**



# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



# IN MEMORIAM MARY ALICE WARNER 1930 - 2022



We were deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved founder, **Mary Alice Warner**. While small in stature, Mary Alice was a giant fighting for our cause: to support parents seeking to nurture their baby's brain development. Without her vision, skill, compassion, and determination, this organization would not exist. The families, staff, and board of 5 Steps to Five are forever in her debt, and she will be missed.

# A WARM THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2022 DONORS

## **Step 5 \$25,000+**

**Emily Grant**

## **Step 4 \$10,000 - \$24,999**

**Anonymous**

**Giovanella & Edward Dunn**

**E. Olivia & Oskar Lewnowski**

**Gabby & Don McCree**

## **Step 3 \$5,000-\$9,999**

**Susan & Frank Brown**

**Kristin & Ken Jautz**

**Fanny and Svante Knistrom**

**Foundation**

**Rye Presbyterian Church Women's**

**Association and Mission and**

**Outreach Committee**

**Mary & David Versfelt**

**Scott F. Warner**

**Betsy Buttrill White**

## **Step 2 \$1,000-\$4,999**

**Laura & Michael Aronstein**

**Emily & Jon Borell**

**Merilee & Roy Bostock**

**Whitney & Allen Clark**

**Nicole & Marcus Colwell**

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**Emilie Murphy & Byron Nimocks**

**Kiren & Biraj Patel**

**Sandy & Joe Samberg**

**Mimi Shea**

**Emily Tisdale**

**Sally & John Tobin**

**Tracy & Chris Turner**

**Mary Alice & Kent Warner**

## **Step 1 \$500 - \$999**

**Anonymous**

**Elizabeth & Robert Alexander**

**Melissa & Justin Boisseau**

**Heather D. Cady & Michael S. Flynn**

**Barbara & Fred Cummings**

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**The McGraw Foundation**

**Amber Nee**

**The Schaupp Family**

**Spiral Giving**

**Katherine Vernace**

**Chris & Susan Versfelt**

**Michelle & Burt Weiss**



# CONTINUED THANKS

## Friends Up to \$499

Margaret Arquit & Bill Blake  
Christine Broestl  
Linda & John Buttrill  
Mary-Liz Campbell  
Chris Cohan  
Tina Exarhos & Allie Eberhardt  
Eve Burton & John Finck  
Paula & Drew Fung  
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Jennifer & Scot Stevens  
Sally & John Tobin  
Birgit & Dan Townley

## Supporters Up to \$249

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Maggie Jahn  
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Sheri & Mike Jordan  
Anna Julien  
Lisa & Todd Kantor  
Linda Kattekamp &  
Saul Van Beurden

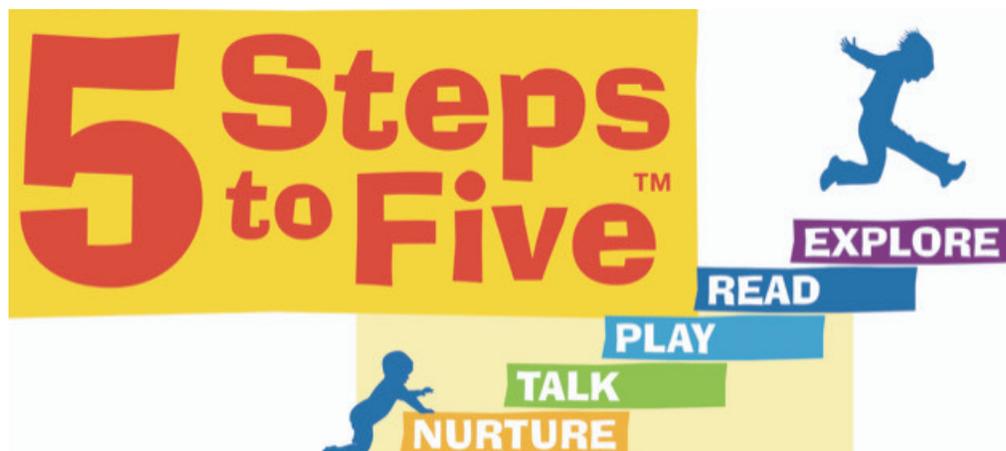
# CONTINUED THANKS

## Supporters Up to \$249

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Lisa & Toby King  
Nora Kirk  
Mary Jane & Jeff Kupsky  
Charlene Laughlin  
Mark Lonnegren  
Linda & Cole Mackay  
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Erin Mara  
Nancy Martin  
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Caroline Teasdale Walker  
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Jane Waluch  
Claire Weschler  
Daryl Woolsey  
Debbie & Martin Zingg





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PO Box 923, Rye, NY 10580

For more information or to get  
involved, please email  
Lisa Field, Executive Director  
[lpfield@5stepstofive.org](mailto:lpfield@5stepstofive.org)

